

REMARKSStatus of the Application

Claims 1, 3 and 5-11 are pending. Claims 6-9 and 11 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected species. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 10 have been rejected.

Election/Restrictions

Please cancel claims 6-9 and 11.

Section 112 Rejections

In response to the rejection under Section 112, claim 3 has been amended to eliminate the misleading phrase and to improve the clarity of the claim. Applicants submit that amended claim 3 includes all the limitations of previous claim 3 and its base claim 1 and that no substantive amendments have been made to the claim.

In further response, please cancel claims 1 and 10.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams in view of Storlie. Please cancel claims 1 and 10.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's statement that claims 3 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten. Applicants have rewritten claim 3 accordingly.


New Power of Attorney

Dr. Gregory Kaufman has passed away. Please accept the enclosed Power of Attorney form on behalf of his wife and heir.

Summary

It is believed that this paper constitutes a complete response to the Office Action mailed November 30, 2005 and an early and favorable action allowing claims 3 and 5 is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,


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